In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

(Filed: April 7, 2008)

DO NOT PUBLISH

ANTHONY NEVELS,)
Petitioner,)
v.) No. 07-0019V) Influenza Vaccine; Stipulation
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,)
Respondent.)

DECISION DIRECTING ENTRY OF JUDGMENT¹

Petitioner, Anthony Nevels (Mr. Nevels), seeks compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (Program).² In a petition that he filed on January 12, 2007, Mr. Nevels alleges that he suffers cutaneous polyarteritis nodosa (CPAN) that is related to a trivalent influenza vaccine that he received on December 5, 2003. Respondent denies that Mr. Nevels sustained a vaccine-related injury. *See*, *e.g.*, Respondent's Report (Report), filed September 18, 2007. Nevertheless, on April 4, 2008, the parties filed a Stipulation. *See* Stipulation, filed April 4, 2008.

As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction "of any information furnished by that party (1) that is trade secret or commercial or financial information and is privileged or confidential, or (2) that are medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy." Vaccine Rule 18(b). Otherwise, "the entire decision" will be available to the public. *Id*.

² The statutory provisions governing the Vaccine Program are found in 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 *et seq.* For convenience, further reference will be to the relevant section of 42 U.S.C.

The special master has reviewed thoroughly the Stipulation. He adopts completely the Stipulation. Therefore, in the absence of a motion for review filed under RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of court shall enter judgment based upon the Stipulation in Mr. Nevels's favor. Under Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties may expedite entry of judgment by filing a joint notice renouncing the right to seek review. Then, under Vaccine Rule 12(a), Mr. Nevels may expedite payment by filing an election to accept the judgment.

The clerk of court shall send Mr. Nevels's copy of this decision to Mr. Nevels by overnight express delivery.

John F. Edwards

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

ANTHONY NEVELS,	
Petitioner,	
v.	No. 07-19V Special Master Edwards
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,))
Respondent.)))

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

- 1. Anthony Nevels ("petitioner") filed a petition for vaccine compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 to -34 (the "Vaccine Program"). The petition seeks compensation for injuries sustained following petitioner's receipt of a trivalent influenza vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table") at 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-14(a)(XIV) and 42 C.F.R. §100.3(a)(XIV).
 - 2. On December 5, 2003, petitioner received a trivalent influenza ("flu") vaccine.
 - 3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
- 4. Petitioner alleges that, within a week of his vaccination, he sustained the first symptom or manifestation of the onset of cutaneous polyarteritis nodosa ("CPAN"), which petitioner alleges was caused-in-fact by his flu vaccine. Petitioner further alleges that he experienced the residual effects of his CPAN for more than six months.
- 5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of his condition.

- 6. Respondent denies that petitioner's CPAN and alleged residual effects were caused-in-fact by the flu vaccine.
- 7. Maintaining their above-stated positions, the parties nevertheless now agree that the issues between them shall be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 8 of this Stipulation.
- 8. As soon as practicable after an entry of judgment reflecting a decision consistent with the terms of this Stipulation, and after petitioner has filed an election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), the Secretary of Health and Human' Services will issue the following vaccine compensation payment:

A lump sum of \$25,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

- 9. As soon as practicable after the entry of judgment on entitlement in this case, and after petitioner has filed both a proper and timely election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), and an application, the parties will submit to further proceedings before the special master to award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.
- 10. Any payment made pursuant to paragraphs 8 and 9 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.
- 11. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs, the money provided pursuant to this Stipulation will be used solely for the benefit of petitioner as contemplated by a strict construction of 42

- U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) and (d), and subject to the conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g) and (h).
- 12. In return for the payment described in paragraph 8, petitioner, on behalf of himself and his heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever and fully expressly release, acquit and discharge the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the United States of America from any and all actions, causes of action, agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown personal injuries to, or death of, petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the flu vaccine administered on December 5, 2003, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about January 12, 2007, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 07-19V.
- 13. If petitioner should die prior to receiving the payment described in paragraph 8, this agreement shall be considered voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.
- 14. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, or in the event the Court of Federal Claims fails to enter judgment in conformity with a decision that is in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, then the parties' settlement and this Stipulation shall be null and void at the sole discretion of either party.
- 15. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete settlement of liability and damages claimed in this matter by petitioner under the National Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to.

16. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, successors and/or assigns.

END OF STIPULATION

Respectfully submitted,

PETITIONER:

Anthony Merels

ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR PETITIONER:

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AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:

GEOFFREY EVANS, M.D.

Director, Division of

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Healthcare Systems Bureau

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